P-407, 421/CP-86-526 ORDER GRANTING TIME EXTENSION

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Darrel L. Peterson Cynthia A. Kitlinski Commissioner Dee Knaak Commissioner Norma McKanna Commissioner Patrice M. Vick Commissioner

In the Matter of the Petition of ISSUE DATE: March 18, 1991 Certain Subscribers in the Lindstrom Exchange for Extended DOCKET NO. P-407, 421/CP-86-526 Area Service to the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Calling Area

Chair

ORDER GRANTING TIME EXTENSION

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On June 26, 1990, the Commission issued its ORDER AFTER RECONSIDERATION OF JUNE 20, 1989 ORDER IN LIGHT OF MINNESOTA STATUTE § 237.161 (1990). <u>In the Matter of the Petition of</u> Certain Subscribers in the Exchanges of Zimmerman, Prescott, Waconia, Belle Plaine, North Branch, Lindstrom, New Praque, Cambridge, Hudson, Houlton, LeSueur, Cannon Falls, Delano, Northfield, Buffalo and Watertown for Extended Area Service to the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Calling Area, Docket No. P-421, 405, 407, 430, 426, 520, 427/CI-87-76. In that Order the Commission directed the telephone companies serving each of the exchanges, plus the telephone companies serving the existing metro calling area, to submit cost studies and proposed rates for extended area service (EAS) for certain of the petitioning exchanges, including Lindstrom.

On August 20, 1990, the Commission issued its ORDER REQUIRING THE FILING OF TRAFFIC STUDIES AND GRANTING TIME EXTENSION. In that Order the parties were given until September 24, 1990, to file their cost studies and proposed rates.

On September 24, 1990, cost studies and proposed rates were filed in the current docket for the Lindstrom exchange.

On December 17, 1990, the Commission issued its ORDER ALLOWING TIME EXTENSION. In that Order the Commission granted the Department of Public Service (the Department) an extension of time until January 9, 1991 in which to file its report and recommendation on the cost studies and proposed rates. Commission issued a second ORDER ALLOWING TIME EXTENSION on February 12, 1991, in which the Department was granted a further extension until February 26, 1991.

The Department filed a request for further time extension on February 26, 1991. The Department explained that an extension was necessary because of revisions to Contel's cost study, which in turn would necessitate revisions to the cost studies of other affected companies. Two companies had also indicated that they would be refiling their cost studies to conform to the methodology adopted by the Commission in its January 25 and February 1, 1991 Metro EAS Orders. The Department asked the Commission to allow it two more weeks in which to consider the cost studies before filing its Report and Recommendation.

The Commission considered the request for time extension on March 12, 1991.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Commission finds that the Department's request for a time extension should be granted. No parties will be prejudiced by the delay. It is reasonable to allow the Department further time to assess reports which have been delayed. No party has opposed the request for time extension.

The Commission will grant the Department's request for a time extension.

ORDER

- 1. The Department is granted a time extension until two weeks from the date of this Order in which to file its report and recommendation regarding cost studies and proposed rates for the Lindstrom exchange.
- 2. Interested parties may submit comments for an additional 20 days beyond the Department's extended filing deadline as calculated in Paragraph One above.
- 3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster Executive Secretary

(S E A L)